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FOR LIGHTFOOT****Attempt to Badger Witness in
the Conspirator Trial
Futile.**

Editor Sheba of the Hawaii Shinpo occupied the stand during the entire session of Judge De Bolt's court yesterday, and from all appearances his cross examination has only fairly begun. Under the severe cross questions of defendant's attorney the witness showed a remarkable command of the intricacies of the English language, expressing the different shading in the meanings of Japanese words by corresponding discrimination in his English phrases and showing equal familiarity with the vernacular of the day.

At the very opening of the session Lightfoot began to ask if Sheba had not used expressions in the "Shinpo" as violent as those he claimed were used against him in the "Jiji." Kinney objected, and the court ruled that Mr. Sheba was not on trial and that the questions were inadmissible. Lightfoot claimed in argument that one of his objects was to show that such expressions as "the iron hammer" were poetical and allegorical and should not be taken in a literary sense.

After several flank attacks designed to bring in the same evidence had been checkmated by objections from Kinney, Lightfoot changed the theme and came back to the meeting which was designed to reconcile the differences of the four newspapers. Lightfoot endeavored to show that Makino and Negoro had got their authority to attend this meeting from a meeting held the previous night at the Asahi Theater, but the witness denied any recollection of that meeting, although he had admitted that it was possible that the "Shinpo" might have had a reporter present if such a meeting was had.

Lightfoot was not inclined to accept the denial of knowledge of the meeting at the theater, even after the witness had repeated it, and there were some lively tilts when he pressed the question.

"Now do you now know as a matter of fact Mr. Sheba?" asked the attorney. "That there had been a meeting on the night before and that Mr. Negoro and Mr. Makino had been requested by the meeting to call together the editors of the newspapers and see if united action could not be had?"

"If I knew that I wouldn't have objected to their presence at the conference," was the answer.

"Will you answer my question please and don't give any more speeches."

"That is the answer to your question because that shows the reason and that is by inference an answer to your question."

"Now, give me your answers if you please directly and not by inference, don't try to get in a lot of argument to this question, give me your answer directly if you will."

"I don't know."

Sheba in Form.

The discussion drifted off into the way Japanese newspapers were managed, and then Lightfoot, still unsatisfied, returned to the charge:

"Is it not a fact Mr. Sheba that you were hurt because you were not specially invited to attend the meeting at the Asahi Theater, and it was on account of that, slight as you thought, that you objected to Mr. Makino's coming into the meeting at Mr. Ishii's house?"

"Well, if I remembered, there was such a meeting held prior to the conference at Mr. Ishii's house, why I would naturally remember whether I was invited or not; but I don't remember that there was such a meeting at the Asahi Theater."

"At the meeting in Mr. Ishii's house, the first meeting in Mr. Ishii's house, did you not lay great emphasis upon the fact that you had been omitted from the invitation to attend the meeting at the Asahi Theater?"

"No, I do not think I did. The thing that I laid stress upon was the education of the planters on the question."

"Did you not on the occasion bring down your fist on the table and say I object to Mr. Makino's being present at this meeting because he caused my name to be omitted from the list of invitations to attend the meeting at the Asahi Theater?"

"I can say that either side on Mr. Makino and Mr. Negoro's side and on my side there was a good deal of knocking of the table, we discussed the matter in earnest and I strenuously opposed the presence of Mr. Makino and Negoro. As to the rest of the allegation I deny that I know anything about it. I remember."

"And that fact then if it be a fact of your striking the table and using those words does not recall any circumstances to your mind?"

"Yes, I knocked the table very often to advance my idea. I was opposed to their idea entirely in the discussion of the campaign among the laborers, and I hit the table all along."

"Well, don't make any more speeches. Good gracious I listened to speeches all day yesterday. I was willing because I wanted to pass the time, but today I want to get on if possible."

Mr. Kinney—"That simply means that you met your match."

Mr. Lightfoot—"I am not meeting matches, I am trying this case of conspiracy, I am not matching against this fellow's wit."

The Court—"Proceed."

Mr. Lightfoot—"I want you to answer my question, Mr. Sheba, and not engage in any address to the jury."

"Well, to make my answer plain—"

Mr. Kinney—"One moment please, that is improper to accuse the witness—"

The Court—"I think the latter remark is improper. I think it is unfair to say that the witness is attempting to address the jury. I think he may not be answering your question directly, but sometimes witnesses fail to fully grasp what the attorney is getting at and perhaps that is the difficulty."

"Did you give at that meeting any reason for objecting to the presence of Mr. Negoro?"

"Yes."

"What was that reason?"

"I didn't know at the time that he was the paid editor of the Nippu Jiji and I didn't know his connection with the Nippu Jiji at the time."

"And because of that ignorance on your part you objected to his presence, is that it?"

"It was to be the conference of representatives of the four Japanese newspapers, and when outside people butted in into the meeting why naturally I would object to it. We didn't want to be influenced by the outsiders."

Lightfoot received a good many whispered suggestions from Negoro as the examination progressed, and twice after following up a wrong clue admitted that he had got hold of the wrong story and asked that some of his questions be stricken out.

Upon the details of the conference the witness said that he had objected to the presence of Makino and Negoro at all; that he objected to Makino's idea of a mass meeting, to the formation of the Higher Wage Association, and to the idea of strikes, and upon his side had advanced the idea of a campaign of education among the white planters.

The witness testified that he had been translating for the Advertiser, but that he had not been paid for it, having done it as a matter of principle in line with his idea of a campaign among the white people for higher wages.

There was considerable discussion about the name of the Higher Wage Association, as the witness stated that he did not like the idea of the ideas suggested by the name. He said the title was better translated "Higher Wages Consumption Society" and that the word signifying "Consumption" implied that the members were determined to attain their object.

"Did Count Okuma use it as the name of a society?" asked Lightfoot. "Yes, Count Okuma is a radical, he headed the anti-American agitation in Japan in opposition to the government. He used it in connection with the abolition of a tax on soy and salt."

The "Iron" Fist.

At the second conference held among the newspapers the president and secretary of the Japanese Wholesale Merchants' Association were present to report the resolutions which had been

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could only refer to the genuine article and was not used as symbolizing the aristocracy of Japan.

The court adjourned till Monday morning, but the defendants will be busy in the meantime, as most of them are among those cited for contempt before Judge Robinson tomorrow morning and Makino has been charged in the Federal court of keeping obscene literature for sale on which he may be arrested at any time.